THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The order position of Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Defence fluctuates depending upon the peaks and troughs of domestic defence acquisition. Surplus capacity, wherever available, is sought to be utilized for the civil market or exports.

(b) and (c) The Defence Procurement Procedure 2002 (version June 2003) includes a provision for the procurement of equipment through imports alongwith transfer of technology, whenever the requirement is large and spread over a long period of time.

Disposal of Vintage Planes

196. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Air Force (IAF) is ready to part with its vintage planes if there are any takers; and

(b) if so, the type of aircrafts that are put on offer?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ajai Vikram Singh Committee Report

197. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Ajai Vikram Singh Committee Report and by when the Report is likely to be implemented; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Finance Minister has cleared the first phase of the report, which after implementation will lower the age profiles of the Army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The Ajai Vikram Singh Committee addresses the twin problems of reducing the age profile of field commanders and cadre stagnation.